

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15
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DRAFTED BY EA/P:MSSMITH:VDC
APPROVED BY EA:RHOLBROOKE
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: EA PRESS GUIDANCE

1. FOLLOWING IS PRESS GUIDANCE FOR USE IN CONNECTION WITH FORTHCOMING VISIT TO THE AREA BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE. NO PRESS RELEASES ARE NEEDED, BUT QUESTIONS CAN BE ANSWERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GUIDANCE. INASMUCH AS THIS IS AN ORIENTATION TRIP, HOLBROOKE DESIRES NO PRESS CONFERENCES OR MEDIA EVENTS. SUGGEST PAOS CONTACT HIM ON ARRIVAL AND PROVIDE FILL-IN ON MEDIA INTERESTS.

2. SUBJECT: EA - RICHARD HOLBROOKE'S TRAVEL.
RICHARD HOLBROOKE, ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR EA AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS, WILL BE VISITING A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES IN THE AREA BETWEEN APRIL 10 AND 20. FOR MUCH OF HIS TRIP HE WILL BE TRAVELLING WITH CONGRESSMAN LESTER WOLFF AND MEMBERS OF HIS SUBCOMMITTEE ON EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS OF THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE WHICH IS MAKING ITS FIRST
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TRIP TO THE AREA. MR. HOLBROOKE WILL BE ACCOMPANYING THE SUBCOMMITTEE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ADMINISTRATION'S DESIRE TO WORK CLOSELY AND PRODUCTIVELY WITH THE CONGRESS.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOLLOWS:

SEOUL APRIL 11-12; JAKARTA APRIL 12-16; SINGAPORE APRIL

16-17 (WITHOUT SUBCOMMITTEE); MANILA APRIL 17-20.

QUESTION: ISN'T IT UNUSUAL FOR AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO ASSIST A CONGRESSIONAL GROUP LIKE THIS? ISN'T THIS USUALLY DONE AT MUCH LOWER LEVELS?

ANSWER: CONGRESSMAN WOLFF ASKED THAT ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE ACCOMPANY HIM AS AN INDICATION OF EXECUTIVE/ LEGISLATIVE COOPERATION.

QUESTION: WILL HOLBROOKE BE MAKING SEPARATE CALLS FROM THE CONGRESSIONAL GROUP IN EACH COUNTRY?

ANSWER: IN SOME INSTANCES HE WILL BE MAKING CALLS SEPARATE FROM THOSE OF THE CONGRESSIONAL GROUP. THOSE DETAILS ARE BEING WORKED OUT BY OUR EMBASSIES.

QUESTION: CAN HIS VISIT TO KOREA BE CONSIDERED PART OF THE CONSULTATIVE PROCESS ON US TROOP WITHDRAWALS?

ANSWER: MR. HOLBROOKE WILL BE ON AN ORIENTATION TRIP AND WILL BE CALLING ON LEADERS OF THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT. BUT SINCE THE DETAILS OF OUR GROUND TROOP WITHDRAWAL HAVE YET TO BE FINALLY WORKED OUT, ANY DISCUSSION OF THE ISSUE WILL ONLY BE OF A GENERAL NATURE.

QUESTION: WILL HE BE NEGOTIATING ON SUCH ISSUES AS BASES IN THE PHILIPPINES?

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ANSWER: THERE WILL BE NO NEGOTIATING INVOLVED IN MR. HOLBROOKE'S TRAVEL. THIS IS AN ORIENTATION TRIP. VANCE

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